

# For First Time In History, U.S. Has A-1 Secret Service

By RAY TUCKER

WASHINGTON — The fruits of Allen W. Dulles' Central Intelligence Agency suggest that the United States might have been spared the surprise and devastating bombing of Pearl Harbor, if this country had had a decent spy unit throughout the 30s. For the first time in history, the government now has a first-class international secret service.

Mr. Dulles' organization has full and early reports on Joseph Stalin's illness, although the indications were that he might live another year. It also predicted the emergence of George Malenkov as the new strong man, although with some accurate modifications. It did not anticipate such an aggressive peace offensive from Moscow so soon, but that was one of the alternative possibilities reported to President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles.

**VALUE OF TIPOFF** — The relatively new agency's finest work in the cold war, however, has been its advance information on the current invasion of Laos, with its threat to Burma and India. Several months ago, before Stalin's death, it had reported on a huge buildup of military strength in southern China. It was obviously too massive mobilization for mere reinforcement to Red forces in Indochina.

Such a tipoff proves invaluable in many ways. It enabled us to warn the French in advance of the operation. We also passed along the word to Prime Minister Nehru in the hope it might persuade him to abandon his excessively neutral policy. There are indications that he may show greater friendliness to the Western Allies in United Nations votes and debates.

In fact, President Eisenhower tried to head off the Laos invasion on the basis of this inside information. The President, several weeks ago, announced that he regarded the Korean and Indochina conflicts as an "interdependent operation." He added that he will increase financial grants to train and equip more than 50 new native battalions for the defense of that key peninsula. Mr. Dulles will soon visit the area as evidence of our interest.

**WORK TOGETHER** — The sixty-year-old lawyer deprecates the appellation of "spies" to his far-flung agents, and he most certainly does not regard himself as a supersleuth of the cloak-and-dagger type. He looks like a professor or a businessman in downtown New York. He operates on the same principles.

He has a staff which does constant research on the customs, traditions, histories, leading personalities, etc., of foreign countries, especially Russia and the satellites. Military experts furnish periodical reports on the size, equipment, disposition and movement of enemy forces. Engineers and industrial experts study so-called basic potentials for war. Economists report on their specialties. From our diplomats abroad he receives supplemental data.

Luckily, world conditions were never more propitious for Mr. Dulles' work. Tito has been a steady supplier of data, based on his erstwhile alliance with Moscow. Escapees from East Germany and other Iron Curtain areas, including key officials, are extremely helpful. There are more "leaks" than at any time since the cold war began.

Finally, there is closer cooperation between the two Dulles brothers. In past years, the State Department felt it was soiling its hands when it worked with the uncoordinated and rough-neck intelligence units of the Army, Navy and Air Force. Now, State, the Pentagon and CIA perform as a team.

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